



INCARCERATION:
YOUR WORST NIGHTMARE AS A PERSON
WITH A DISABILITY

TINA

(Hard of hearing, physical problems)

- Loss of civil rights
- Trauma, fear, loneliness, pain
- Limited visitation or legal help, lack of ASL or other language interpretation
- Loss of medications and durable medical equipment (walkers, crutches, power wheelchairs, hearing aide batteries, etc.)
- Insensitivity or poor treatment from other inmates and/or guards; victimization or bullying
- Use of solitary confinement, protective custody, restraint and seclusion, punishment for behaviors or conditions related to disability

CRAIG

(Bi-polar, substance use, age 17)

- Loss of civil rights
- Loss of home, family, friends, job, support staff, belongings, SSI, Medicaid, etc.
- Lack or loss of medications, delay of medical, mental health, or substance use treatment
- Insensitivity or poor treatment from other inmates and/or guards; victimization or bullying
- Loss of educational services for youth or programs for various other prisoners
- Lack of support or help if one has reading, writing, comprehension or processing needs and one has to learn new rules, structures, directions
- Trauma, fear, loneliness, pain

NICOLE

(Prosthetic leg, diabetes, asthma)

- Loss of civil rights
- Loss of physical access and provision for functional needs
- Lack or loss of medications and durable medical equipment (walkers, crutches, wheelchairs, hearing aide batteries, etc.)
- Insensitivity or poor treatment from other inmates and/or guards; victimization or bullying
- Lack of recognition and treatment of medical conditions, including addiction withdrawal
- Trauma, fear, loneliness, pain

SUSIE

(Visitor, ASL and wheelchair user)

- Limited visitation or legal help, lack of ASL or other language interpretation
- Insensitivity or poor treatment from other inmates and/or guards; victimization or bullying
- Loss of home, family, friends, job, support staff, belongings, SSI, Medicaid, etc.

**THE WORST THING
THAT CAN HAPPEN:
DEATH**



- **Salladin Barton**, a 35 year-old African American man, who died in January, 2015, in Broome County jail. He had been waiting two years for his trial.



- **Chuniece Patterson**, a 21 year old African American woman, died at the Syracuse Justice Center, November 10, 2009.



- **India Cummings**, 27 year old African American woman, died February 21, four days after being transferred from the Erie County Holding Center to Buffalo General Medical.



- **Mark Cannon** (in photo above with his daughter), took five days to die after a stroke at the Albany County jail.



- Poorly trained deputies at the Erie County Holding Center killed inmate Richard Metcalf Jr., aged 35, in November 2012.

Justice and Unity for the Southern Tier

- J.U.S.T. brings together individuals who have long been working separately on criminal and social justice issues in the Southern Tier; dedicated to dismantling mass incarceration in our community.
- Current projects include prisoner and family support, public education efforts, local and regional community organizing, distribution of “Less Death and More Health: An Action Plan for the Broome County Jail and Criminal Justice System”, bail reform, etc.
- Letters from a Mom and the lawsuits in Onondaga and Broome Counties.
- <http://justicest.com/>

THE FORGOTTEN ONES: IMPACT ON FAMILIES AND WHAT FAMILIES CAN DO








HEALTHCARE
NOT
CAGES!

NO JUSTICE
NO PEACE

#INMATES
LIVES
MATTER!

JUSTICE OR RAYMOND IN JAIL
AND HIS FAMILY

No one should
DIE



***45% of people in prison lose
contact with their families***

***22% of people who were
married on imprisonment
become separated or divorced***

70% of children with incarcerated parents will follow in their parents' footsteps...





RE-ENTRY CHALLENGES; WHAT YOU COME OUT WITH AND WHAT YOU NEED

- Where will you live?
- Who will be available to help you?
- How will you get medical care or medicines? Food?
- Trauma, PTSD, MH or addiction needs?
- Re-opening social services cases, resuming services?
- Where and how to re-apply for SSI, SSP, Medicaid or other benefits?
- Transportation, clothing, other personal care needs?

ADVOCACY



ROLES FOR ILC'S

- Supporting people and their families before, during and after incarceration
- Educating and organizing community members, engaged enlightenment, grass roots work
- Utilizing models that are working in some counties (Tompkins, Lewis, Jefferson, Albany, Rochester, Syracuse, etc.)
- Working with political and justice authorities, county and state systems
- The bigger picture statewide (legislation, local, regional and state coalitions handouts)

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS

